

07/21/14

Re: SEP 14 Status update, July, 2014

Dear SMT,

As you may be aware, I resigned from Exponent in the first quarter of 2014, and have taken a position as Principal Epidemiologist with EpidStat Institute. Dr. David Hoel, a Principal Scientist with Exponent, has taken over as principal investigator on the Fort Hall Community Health Assessment project. I will be sub-contracted by Exponent to facilitate the completion of this project.

Our goal is to complete the data analyses and final report by the end of 2014.

We will be working closely with the Idaho State Epidemiologist to complete the cancer, mortality and sentinel events assessments. We will be working with a Fort Hall liaison to perform medical records reviews for new onset asthma and visit frequency.

We are moving forward as planned and in accordance with the methodological and analytical protocol summarized in our previous progress report. The Idaho State epidemiologist has geocoded the cancer incidence data and the Cancer Data Registry of Idaho (CDRI) can analyze cancer incidence alongside our statistician. This will be performed based on analytical comparisons between an agglomeration of census tracts or block groups that closely match the Fort Hall Reservation boundaries and various reference rates. Based on background review, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Planning Department can provide a list of census tracts and/or block groups that comprise the Fort Hall Reservation using both Census 2000 and Census 2010 geography. We will use the United States Census Bureau to identify relevant comparison populations. We will submit two different terms of data use documents -- one is for confidential data, and the other is for a limited use dataset. Mortality data are the purview of the Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics (BVRHS), Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. Idaho mortality data have not been geocoded to the level of census tract, although we will be able to analyze data at the zip code level.

The above methodology is standard and acceptable scientific practice for the conduct of epidemiologic studies.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dominik D. Alexander, PhD, MSPH